## In the claims:

1. (original) A compound represented by formula I:

wherein

R represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or alkenyl; and A represents independently for each occurrence aryl or heteroaryl.

- 2. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 3. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is heteroaryl.
- 4. **(original)** The compound of claim 1, wherein A is heteroaryl, and R represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 5. (currently amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of:

R represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, or a bond to the nathphyl ring of the compound represented by formula I.

6. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of:

R represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, or a bond to the nathphyl ring of the compound represented by formula I.

7. (original) A compound represented by formula II:

II

wherein

- R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or alkenyl.
- 8. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 9. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R represents independently for each occurrence H.
- 10. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 11. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H.
- 12. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, or aryl.
- 13. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence alkyl.
- 14. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, or pentyl.
- 15. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence methyl or isopropyl.
- 16. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, or aryl.
- 17. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence aryl.
- 18. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence an optionally substituted phenyl group.
- 19. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence 3,5-dimethylphenyl.

- 20. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is H, and  $R_2$  is alkyl.
- 21. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is H, and  $R_2$  is methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, or pentyl.
- 22. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is H, and  $R_2$  is methyl.
- 23. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>3</sub> is H, and R<sub>2</sub> is isopropyl.
- 24. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence aryl.
- 25. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence an optionally substituted phenyl group.
- 26. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> is 3,5-dimethylphenyl.
- 27. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein said compound is a chiral.
- 28. (original) The compound of claim 7, wherein said compound is a single diastereomer.
- 29. (original) A compound represented by formula III:

III

wherein

- R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or alkenyl.
- 30. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 31. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R represents independently for each occurrence H.
- 32. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H or alkyl.
- 33. (**original**) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H.
- 34. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, or aryl.
- 35. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence alkyl.
- 36. (**original**) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents independently for each occurrence methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, or pentyl.
- 37. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, or aryl.
- 38. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence aryl.
- 39. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence an optionally substituted phenyl group.
- 40. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence 3,5-dimethylphenyl.
- 41. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H,  $R_1$  is H,  $R_3$  is H, and  $R_2$  is alkyl.
- 42. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>3</sub> is H, and R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, or pentyl.

- 43. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>3</sub> is H, and R<sub>2</sub> is methyl.
- 44. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>3</sub> is H, and R<sub>2</sub> is isopropyl.
- 45. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence aryl.
- 46. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> represents independently for each occurrence an optionally substituted phenyl group.
- 47. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is H, and R<sub>3</sub> is 3,5-dimethylphenyl.
- 48. (original) The compound of claim 29, wherein said compound is a single enantiomer.

  Claims 49-83 (canceled)
- 84. (new) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of:

R represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, or a bond to the nathphyl ring of the compound represented by formula I.

85. (new) The compound of claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of:

R represents independently for each occurrence H, alkyl, aryl, or a bond to the nathphyl ring of the compound represented by formula I.